DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 05/19/2009 has been entered.

Remarks

2.   Receipt of the Applicant's Supplemental Amendment, filed on 05/19/2009, is acknowledged. The amendment includes amending of claims 37, 55, and 89.

Examiner's Amendment

3.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Ari G. Akmal (Reg. No 51,388) on August 11, 2009.

4.   The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 1-36 and 106-113.

Reasons for Allowance

5.   The following is an examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to teach a combination of elements including providing a client-facing interface employing a first network filesystem protocol, wherein said first network filesystem protocol extends a filesystem namespace and abstractions across said network;

Provide a server-facing filesystem interface employing a second network filesystem protocol, wherein said first network file system protocol and said second network filesystem protocol are same or different;

Pass the filesystem request to a server as a proxy request according to the server-facing filesystem interface, wherein passing the first filesystem request as a proxy request comprises applying a set of rules to the first filesystem request to determine if the first filesystem request should be modified and if it is determined that the first filesystem request should be modified, modifying the first filesystem request to generate the proxy request wherein applying the set of rules to the first filesystem request comprises: determining from the filesystem request a corresponding requested operation and a filesystem object on which the requested operation is to be performed;

Wherein each of the set of rules comprises a pattern and an action, the pattern defining a Boolean expression for the evaluation of a set of metadata and an action defining how a file system request is to be modified, as recited in independent claims 37, 55, and 89.

Specifically, the prior art generally mentions using a proxy to modify client requests, but is silent as to the use of Boolean expressions with rules to determine if a modification should be conducted.

These features, together with the other limitations of the independent claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. The dependent claims 39-42, 44-45, 56-61, and 90-95, being definite, enabled by the specification, and further limiting to the independent claim, are also allowable.

Contact Information

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahesh Dwivedi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:20 am – 4:40 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached (571) 272-3642. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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Mahesh Dwivedi
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2168

August 11, 2009
/Mahesh H Dwivedi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2168

/Tim T. Vo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2168